

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 DUBLIN 001492

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR CA/FPP; DEPT ALSO PASS TO KCC

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [KFRD](#) [CVIS](#) [CPAS](#) [CMGT](#) [ASEC](#) [UK](#) [EI](#)

SUBJECT: FRAUD SUMMARY - DUBLIN

REF: STATE 205073

1. Country Conditions: Ireland is a modern, highly industrialized nation with a growing economy and moderate rate of inflation. The export trade continues as the driving force behind the countries prosperity and this in turn has led to a rise in consumer spending, a thriving construction industry and an increase in business investment from both Irish and foreign investors. The work force is well educated and flexible, the rate of unemployment in the country is 4.3%, the E.U. aggregate rate stands at 8.5%. The country continues to actively recruit abroad to supplement the local workforce across a broad spectrum of professional and service positions. Since May 1, 2004 when the need for work permits ceased to be a requirement for all accession states to the European Union, post has seen a substantial increase in the number of NIV applications from all these countries, particularly the Czech Republic, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Slovakia. Citizens are attracted by the wages, availability of jobs, comprehensive educational system and excellent social welfare benefits that Ireland has to offer.

Birth, Marriage and Death certificates are available through direct application to the Registrar, General Register Office. Commencing in July 2003 under a modernization scheme, new style "security certificates" were introduced on a phased basis. Both the new and the old handwritten version with dry seal are in circulation. To date no problems have been experienced with either.

Ireland introduced a new passport in November 2004. The passport is a highly secure document and incorporates a polycarbonate data page with enhanced security features. To date no reports of fraud regarding this passport have been received.

2. NIV Fraud: As a low fraud post the main reason for visa refusals continues to be the failure of both Irish and TCN applicants to overcome the "intending immigrant" requirements of the law, and the suspicion that the applicants are seeking to enter the U.S. to take up illegal employment, even if only temporarily. Post continues to monitor with care Indian national H1-B applicants in the IT (information technology) sector who apply with an Indian primary degree, have taken further IT-related courses in either questionable Irish schools or at recognized institutions where they fail to make the grade. Often times, small Indian owned IT companies in the US are the petitioners of these applicants.

3. IV Fraud: Post is aware of this potential area of fraud but has no incidents to report.

4. DV Fraud: Two cases of DV Fraud were encountered at post in the past year. One related to the presentation of fraudulent educational documents by a Burmese national in support of his visa application. The second involved an Irish national who made two separate applications for the visa lottery, thus disqualifying herself.

5. ACS and Passport Fraud: No incidents of fraud have been detected in the past year.

6. Adoption Fraud: There are very few Irish children available for adoption and although it is legally possible for these children to be adopted outside the state, preference would be given to Irish adopting parents.

7. Asylum and other DHS Benefits: No incidents reported.

8. Co-Operation with host government: Co-operation with the Irish government offices and agencies is excellent. The FPM meets on a regular basis with representatives from government offices, the local law enforcement agency and U.K. embassy officers. The US Bureau of Customs and Border Protection (BCBP) have Pre-Flight Inspection facilities at both Dublin and Shannon Airports and also participate at these meetings to help keep all informed and alerted to any emerging trends.

9. Areas of particular concern: The potential for fraud arising from the increased numbers of TCNs now living legally but undocumented in Ireland and applying for NIVs at post is an issue of concern. Also, we continue to experience H1B applications from Indian nationals whose educational ties to Ireland may be suspect and who appear to be using temporary residency in Ireland as a stepping stone for seeking an H1B visa here as opposed to from our posts in India.

10. Staffing and Training: FPM Andrew Hoyer also holds the position of Chief of the Visa Unit and attended PC541 Fraud Prevention for Consular Managers (PC541) in March 2001. LES Nuala Phillips spends approximately 50% of her time on fraud prevention matters and attended the Fraud Prevention Workshop (PC542) in 2003. LES back-up Alan King has attended no formal Fraud Prevention training courses to date although he did attend the Senior NIV Workshop (PC121) in February 2004.